

Docket No.  
0290.00004

## Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

### English Language Declaration

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled  
**TRAILER HITCH COVER ASSEMBLY**

the specification of which

(check one)

☒ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as United States Application No. or PCT International  
Application Number \_\_\_\_\_  
and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d) or Section 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or Section 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority Not Claimed

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Country)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Day/Month/Year Filed)

☐

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Country)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Day/Month/Year Filed)

☐

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Country)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Day/Month/Year Filed)

☐

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Application Serial No.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Filing Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Application Serial No.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Filing Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Application Serial No.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U. S. C. Section 120 of any United States application(s), or Section 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, C. F. R., Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

09/716,666

November 20, 2000

Pending

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Application Serial No.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Filing Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Status)  
(patented, pending, abandoned)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Application Serial No.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Filing Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Status)  
(patented, pending, abandoned)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Application Serial No.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Filing Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Status)  
(patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. *(list name and registration number)*

D. H. Bliss      32,398    G. E. McGlynn, III    33,737  
 R. S. Nolan      30,667    S. D. Nolan            43,837  
 B. S. Pickell      45,013    P.H. Smirman        35,365

Send Correspondence to: **Bliss McGlynn & Nolan, P.C.**  
**2075 West Big Beaver Road, Suite 600**  
**Troy, Michigan 48084**

Direct Telephone Calls to: *(name and telephone number)*  
**Daniel H. Bliss (248) 649-6090**

Full name of sole or first inventor

**Robert B. Blake**

Sole or first inventor's signature



Date

*Oct 4th. 2001*

Residence

**1580 Jewell Avenue, Ferndale, Michigan 48220**

Citizenship

**U.S.A.**

Post Office Address

**1580 Jewell Avenue, Ferndale, Michigan 48220**

Full name of second inventor, if any

Second inventor's signature

Date

Residence

Citizenship

Post Office Address

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27 (b)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

Docket No.  
0209.00004

Serial No.

Filing Date

Patent No.

Issue Date

Applicant/ **R bert B. Blake**  
Patentee:

Invention:

**TRAILER HITCH COVER ASSEMBLY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled above and described in:

- ☒ the specification to be filed herewith.  
☐ the application identified above.  
☐ the patent identified above.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☐ No such person, concern or organization exists.  
☐ Each such person, concern or organization is listed below.

\*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities (37 CFR 1.27)

FULL NAME  
ADDRESS

☐ Individual ☐ Small Business Concern ☐ Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME  
ADDRESS

☐ Individual ☐ Small Business Concern ☐ Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME  
ADDRESS

☐ Individual ☐ Small Business Concern ☐ Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME  
ADDRESS

☐ Individual ☐ Small Business Concern ☐ Nonprofit Organization

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF INVENTOR Robert B. Blake

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 

DATE: Oct. 4th 2001

NAME OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27 (c)) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

Docket No.  
**0209.00004**

Serial No.

Filing Date

Patent No.

Issue Date

Applicant/ **Robert B. Blake**  
Patentee:

Invention: **TRAILER HITCH COVER ASSEMBLY**

I hereby declare that I am:

- ☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:  
☐ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN: **Blake Design Group, LLC.**

ADDRESS OF CONCERN: **2075 West Big Beaver Road, Suite 600, Troy, Michigan 48084**

I hereby declare that the above-identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 37 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the above identified invention described in:

- ☒ the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.  
☐ the application identified above.  
☐ the patent identified above.

If the rights held by the above-identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed on the next page and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☐ no such person, concern or organization exists.  
☐ each such person, concern or organization is listed below.

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

☐ Individual☐ Small Business Concern☐ Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

☐ Individual☐ Small Business Concern☐ Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

☐ Individual☐ Small Business Concern☐ Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

☐ Individual☐ Small Business Concern☐ Nonprofit Organization

Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING:

Robert B. Blake

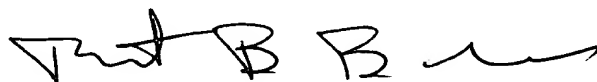
TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING

OTHER THAN OWNER:

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING:

2075 West Big Beaver Road, Suite 600, Troy, Michigan 48084

SIGNATURE:



DATE:

Oct. 4th, 2001